

Raiders' Thompson goes out in style

By Dwight Frady

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SANDY MUSH — South Point's Steve Thompson, a 185-pound senior fullback, gave Red Raider fans a game to remember him by in Friday night's 37-13 Red Raider win over the Chase Trojans.

And, to say the least, Thompson was rather unforgettable. Playing his last game in the red and white, Thompson scored four touchdowns, added a two-point conversion, returned a kickoff 99 yards for one of his scores to set a South Point record in that department, and added another six-pointer on a 78-yard run from scrimmage.

Thompson gained 166 yards in 11 carries. Following his 78-yard run with 5:09 remaining in the third period, Thompson carried the ball just one time after that, scoring on a 3-yard run.

The victory gave South Point a 5-5 season following impressive wins over East Rutherford and Chase.

"I'm proud of the way our guys came back and made it a 5-5 year after some frustrating losses," said Raider Coach Jim Biggerstaff.

"We played some of our best football of the season during our last two games. It's a great way to end our season and gives our team, which is a young one, some impetus going into next year.

"Thompson had a great night. It's been a long time since one of our backs has scored four touchdowns in one game."

Quarterback Mark Young, a junior, also had a big night, rushing for 94 yards in 11 carries and a touchdown. The Raiders' other points came on two extra points by kicker Mike Dudko and a safety when punter Todd Frasier of the Trojans was tackled in the end zone.

Chase drew first blood on a 41-yard pass from Brian Foster to Frasier, but South Point dominated the game after that, scoring 37 unanswered points before the Trojans got the final touchdown of the game on a 2-yard run by James Jones.

On the ensuing kickoff following the first Chase touchdown, Thompson took the ball on the Raider 1 and raced 99 yards. Shortly thereafter, Jeff Biggerstaff recovered a Trojan fumble at the Chase 28. Four plays later, Young went in from 12 yards out and

Dudko converted, giving South Point a 13-7 halftime lead.

The Raiders put together a picture perfect 74-yard, 10-play drive to open the second half, climaxed by Thompson's 13-yard run. Young passed to Thompson for the two-point conversion and a 21-7 Raider lead. South Point added nine more third period points on the 78-yard run by Thompson and a safety, giving the Raiders a 30-7 lead going into the fourth period.

Long before that, South Point's second unit was in action on both offense and defense. The Raiders' final score came on a 51-yard drive, climaxed by Thompson's 3-yard run.

South Point amassed 402 yards in total offense, 346 on the ground and 56 through the air. Young hit on four of six passes for 41 yards in addition to his 94 yards rushing.

South Point took complete command of the game after Chase drew first blood, being stopped at the Trojan 33 and advancing to the Chase 23 in the second period before being thwarted. The second half belonged to the Raiders.

The Trojans finished their season with a 4-5-1 record.

South Point 37 ➡

Chase 13

South Point	13	0	17	7	—	37
Chase	7	0	0	6	—	13

C — Frasier 41 pass from Foster (Jones kick)

SP — Thompson 99 kickoff return (kick failed)

SP — Young 12 run (Dudko kick)

SP — Thompson 13 run (Thompson pass from Young)

SP — Thompson 78 run (Dudko kick)

SP — Safety, Frasier tackled in end zone

SP — Thompson 3 run (Dudko kick)

C — Jones 2 run (pass failed)